



PATENT - Docket No.: 56970U

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: **Bruce Ross**

SERIAL NUMBER: **09/828,714**

GROUP ART UNIT:

FILED: **April 6, 2001**

FOR: **SYSTEM FOR AUTHORIZING TRANSACTIONS USING
SPECIALLY FORMATTED SMART CARDS**

EXAMINER:

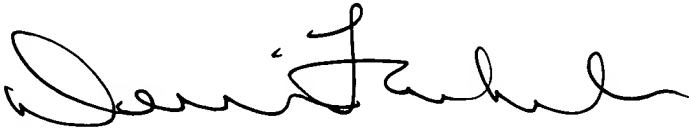
**COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Box AMENDMENT
Washington, D.C. 20231**

Sir:

Withdrawal of Reference to Provisional Application

Applicant requests deletion from this application of all reference to and reliance upon the earlier-filed provisional application. Marked up and clean copies of the affected pages of the specification are attached.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Dennis H. Lambert, Reg. No. 25017

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September 17, 2001



SYSTEM FOR AUTHORIZING TRANSACTIONS USING SPECIALLY FORMATTED SMART CARDS

Cross-Reference to Related Applications

None

Field of the Invention

The invention relates in general to transaction systems and networks.

5 More specifically, the invention relates to smart cards and smart card
authorization systems that provide standardization through the use of a fixed
data structure, thereby allowing multiple point-of-sale systems to recognize
and access the smart cards regardless of upper level user interfaces. In
particular, the invention provides a method of sharing data and/or value
10 between a smart card issued to a user and a point of sale system in an
entertainment, theater, restaurant, retail business or other venue.

Background of the Invention

Systems that allow a user to complete a transaction at a specified
location are generally referred to as point-of-sale systems. Point-of-sale
15 systems employ various mechanisms to permit the user to interact with a
transaction network to complete a variety of different types of transactions.
A sales kiosk or computer terminal, for example, may be employed that
allows a user to complete a sales transaction using a credit card, debit card or
specialty access cards such as pre-paid gift certificate cards. The sales kiosk
20 or computer terminal generally includes a card reader to read information from
the card that is supplied to a transaction network for verification. Upon
completion of verification, the transaction is authorized and the sale is
completed.



SYSTEM FOR AUTHORIZING TRANSACTIONS USING SPECIALLY FORMATTED SMART CARDS

Cross-Reference to Related Applications

~~This application claims the benefit of United States Provisional
Application Serial No. 60/195,880, filed April 7, 2000.~~
None

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EXAMINER:

Certificate of Mailing

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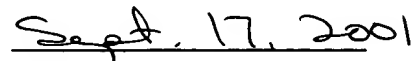
Sir:

I, Cynthia M. Carpenter, hereby certify that the attached Withdrawal of Reference to Provisional Application Certificate of Mailing and Return Receipt Postcard are being deposited on September 17, 2001, with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

**COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Box AMENDMENT
Washington, D.C. 20231**

Cynthia M. Carpenter


Signature


Date